

*Computing Dynamic User Equilibrium  
on large scale networks without knowing  
global parameters*

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## Dynamic User equilibrium

- Dynamic User equilibrium of open-loop type is one type of DTA
- Mathematical formulation of Wardrop's first principle: In an equilibrium all used paths have the same effective unit travel delay.
- DUE models consist of 5 main components:
  - ① A model of path delay;
  - ② flow dynamics;
  - ③ flow propagation constraints;
  - ④ route and departure time choice model;
  - ⑤ model of demand growth.

## Our Contribution

This work focuses on advancing the computational aspects of DUE.

- Strong Convergence of path flows to a DUE.
- Adaptive Step size selection: No information about the Lipschitz coefficient of the delay operator needed.
- Weak Monotonicity: Algorithm is provably convergent under pseudo-monotonicity.
- Inertial and relaxation effects lead to enhanced stability and potential acceleration.

## Network Model

- $G = (\mathcal{V}, \mathcal{E})$  a directed graph,  $\mathcal{V}$  set of vertices representing junctions and  $\mathcal{E}$  representing road segments.
- Origin-Destination (O-D) pairs  $w_i = (o_i, d_i) \in \mathcal{W}$ .
- A path  $p = \{l_1, \dots, l_{m(p)}\}$  is a non-repeating set of links connected some O-D pair  $w \in \mathcal{W}$ .
- Let  $\mathcal{P}$  be the set of paths and  $\mathcal{H} = \mathbb{R}^{|\mathcal{P}|}$ , and  $\mathcal{P}_w \subset \mathcal{P}$  paths connecting the pair  $w \in \mathcal{W}$ .
- $(\forall w \in \mathcal{W}) : Q_w > 0$  exogenous demand.

## Paths and Delays

- $[t_0, t_1]$  for  $0 < t_0 < t_1 < \infty$  is a fixed planning horizon.
- $h = (h_p)_{p \in \mathcal{P}}$  is a profile of *departure time-densities* (path flow)
- $h_p \in L^2_+[t_0, t_1]$ , so that  $h \in \mathcal{H} = (L^2_+[t_0, t_1])^{|\mathcal{P}|}$ .
- $D_p(t, h)$  for  $p \in \mathcal{P}, t \in [t_0, t_1]$  the path travel time of a driver departing at time  $t$  and following path  $p$
- The *path delay operator*

$$D(h) = \{D_p(\cdot, h); p \in \mathcal{P}\} : \mathcal{H} \rightarrow \mathcal{H}$$

$$h \mapsto D(h)$$

## Effective delay

- Beside path travel times, we also allow for arrival penalties

$$t \mapsto \phi(t + D_p(t, h) - \tau)$$

- This gives rise to the *effective delay operator*

$$A_p(t, h) = D_p(t, h) + \phi(t - D_p(t, h) - \tau).$$

- The effective path delay operator is a key component of analytical DUE models.
- It is usually not available in closed form.
- Numerical evaluation from *dynamic network loading* (DNL).

## Definition of DUE

Let

$$\mathcal{X} = \{h \in \mathcal{H} \mid (\forall w \in \mathcal{W}) : \sum_{p \in \mathcal{P}_w} \int_{t_0}^{t_1} h_p(t) dt = Q_w\}$$

the set of feasible flows.

### Definition

$h^* \in \mathcal{H}$  is a DUE if

(a)  $h^* \in \mathcal{X}$ ,

(b)  $h_p^*(t) > 0, p \in \mathcal{P}_w \Rightarrow A_p(t, h^*) = v_w(h^*)$

where

$$v_p(h) = \operatorname{ess\,inf}_{t \in [t_0, t_1]} A_p(t, h), \quad v_w(h) = \min_{p \in \mathcal{P}_w} v_p(h).$$

## VI Formulation

$\mathcal{H}$  is a real Hilbert space with inner product

$$\langle f, g \rangle = \int_{t_0}^{t_1} \sum_{p \in \mathcal{P}} f_p(t) g_p(t) dt.$$

*Proposition (Friesz, Bernstein, Smith, Tobin and Wie, 1993)*

$h^* \in \mathcal{X}$  is a DUE with simultaneous route-and-departure-time choice if

$$(\forall h \in \mathcal{X}) : \langle A(h^*), h - h^* \rangle \geq 0$$

Opens the door to apply fixed-point algorithms to DUE!



## Fixed point formulation of DUE

- Define the residual function

$$r_\lambda(h) = \|h - P_{\mathcal{X}}(h - \lambda A(h))\|$$

- Given  $\lambda > 0$  one can see that  $h \in \mathcal{X}$  is a DUE if and only if  $r_\lambda(h) = 0$ .
- This suggests the *fixed-point iteration*

$$h_{n+1} = P_{\mathcal{X}}(h_n - \lambda_n A(h_n))$$

for  $\{\lambda_n\}_n$  step size sequence.

- Weak convergence of  $\{h_n\}_n$  follows under monotonicity and co-cocercivity of  $A$ .
- It is of great interest to relax this assumption.

# Assumptions

## Assumption

$A : \mathcal{H} \rightarrow \mathcal{H}$  is sequentially weakly continuous

## Assumption

$A : \mathcal{H} \rightarrow \mathcal{H}$  is pseudo-monotone:

$$\langle A(h_1), h_2 - h_1 \rangle \geq 0 \Rightarrow \langle A(h_2), h_2 - h_1 \rangle \geq 0.$$

for all  $h_1, h_2 \in \mathcal{H}$ .

## Link-based Macroscopic model

The within-link dynamics follow a standard conservation law

$$\partial_t \rho_i(t, x) + \partial_x [\rho_i(t, x) v_i(\rho_i(t, x))] = 0$$

for  $(t, x) \in [t_0, t_1] \times [a_i, b_i]$ .

We focus on the triangular fundamental diagram

$$f_i(\rho) = \begin{cases} v_i \rho & \text{if } \rho \in [0, \rho_i^c], \\ -w_i(\rho - \rho^{jam}) & \text{if } \rho \in (\rho_i^c, \rho_i^{jam}] \end{cases}$$

## DAE Formulation

- Following the variational formulation of Aubin et al. (2008) and Claudel & Bayen (2010), consider the Moskowitz function  $N_i(t, x)$ :

$$\begin{aligned}\partial_t N_i(t, x) &= f_i(\rho_i(t, x)), \partial_x N_i(t, x) = -\rho_i(t, x), \\ \partial_t N_i(t, x) - f_i(-\partial_x N_i(t, x)) &= 0.\end{aligned}$$

- Include dynamics at junctions and origin nodes.
- Calculate path delay by the implicit relation

$$\begin{aligned}N^{up}(t) &= N^{down}(\lambda(t)), \\ D_p(t, h) &= \lambda_s \circ \lambda_1 \circ \dots \circ \lambda_{m(p)}(t).\end{aligned}$$

## Basic fixed-point iteration

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**Algorithm 1** FB for VI( $A, \mathcal{X}$ ).

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**Input:** Effective delay operator  $A : \mathcal{H} \rightarrow \mathcal{H}$ , step size  $\{\tau_n\}_{n \in \mathbb{N}}$ , Initial point  $h_0 \in \mathcal{X}$ ,  $N \geq 1$  stopping time.

**for**  $n = 0, 1, \dots, N$  **do**

    obtain  $h_n$  by running a DNL procedure;

**if** Stopping condition not satisfied **then**

        Update

$$h_{n+1} = P_{\mathcal{X}}(h_n - \tau_n A(h_n)). \quad (1)$$

**end if**

**end for**

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- FB is a standard method to solve variational inequalities.
- Weak convergence of path flows requires
  - 1 Lipschitz continuity:  $\|A(h) - A(h')\| \leq L \|h - h'\|$  for some  $L > 0$ ;
  - 2 Monotonicity:  $\langle A(h) - A(h'), h - h' \rangle \geq 0$  for all  $h, h' \in \mathcal{H}$ ;
  - 3 Co-coercivity:  $\langle A(h) - A(h'), h - h' \rangle \geq \beta \|A(h) - A(h')\|^2$  for some  $\beta > 0$ .
- In DUE problems these assumptions are either not satisfied or hard to justify.

# A forward-backward-forward algorithm

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## Algorithm 2 FBF for $VI(A, \mathcal{X})$ .

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**Input:** Initial point  $h_0 \in \mathcal{X}$ .

**for**  $n = 0, 1, \dots, N$  **do**

    Obtain  $h_n$  by running a DNL procedure;

**if** Stopping condition not satisfied **then**

        Compute

$$\begin{aligned} y_n &= P_{\mathcal{X}}(h_n - \tau_n A(h_n)), \\ z_{n+1} &= y_n + \tau_n (A(h_n) - A(y_n)), \\ h_{n+1} &= (1 - \alpha_n - \beta_n) h_n + \beta_n z_{n+1}. \end{aligned}$$

Update the step size sequence

$$\tau_{n+1} = \begin{cases} \min \left\{ \tau_n, \frac{\mu \|y_n - h_n\|}{\|A(y_n) - A(h_n)\|} \right\} & \text{if } A(y_n) - A(h_n) \neq 0, \\ \text{else} & \end{cases} \quad (2)$$

**end if**  
**end for**

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# Introducing Inertia

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## Algorithm 3 IFBF for $VI(A, \mathcal{X})$ .

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**Input:** Initial point  $h_{-1}, h_0 \in \mathcal{X}$ .  
**for**  $n = 0, 1, \dots, N$  **do**  
 obtain  $h_n$  via a DNL procedure  
**if** Stopping condition not satisfied **then**  
 Compute

$$\begin{aligned} w_n &= (1 - \beta_n)[h_n + \alpha_n(h_n - h_{n-1})] \\ y_n &= P_{\mathcal{X}}(w_n - \tau_n A(w_n)) \\ h_{n+1} &= (1 - \lambda)w_n + \lambda(y_n + \tau_n(A(w_n) - A(y_n))) \end{aligned}$$

Update the step size

$$\tau_{n+1} = \begin{cases} \tau_n & \text{if } A(w_n) = A(y_n) \\ \min\left\{\tau_n, \frac{\mu \|w_n - y_n\|}{\|A(w_n) - A(y_n)\|}\right\} & \text{else} \end{cases} \quad (3)$$

Update the inertia parameter

$$0 \leq \alpha_{n+1} \leq \begin{cases} \alpha & \text{if } h_{n+1} \neq h_n, \\ \frac{\epsilon_{n+1}}{\|h_{n+1} - h_n\|} & \text{otherwise.} \end{cases} \quad (4)$$



## Strong convergence of FBF

*Theorem (Theorem 2, Duvocelle, Meier, S., Vuong, 2020)*

Let  $\{\alpha_n\}_{n \in \mathbb{N}}$  and  $\{\beta_n\}_{n \in \mathbb{N}}$  be two real sequences in  $(0, 1)$ , satisfying conditions

$$\{\beta_n\}_{n \in \mathbb{N}} \subseteq (b, 1 - \alpha_n) \text{ for some } b > 0, \quad (5)$$

and

$$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \alpha_n = 0 \text{ and } \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \alpha_n = \infty. \quad (6)$$

Then the sequence  $\{h_n\}$  generated by Algorithm 2 converges strongly to  $h^* = \arg \min \{\|z\| : z \in \Omega\}$ .

## Strong convergence of IBBF

*Theorem (Viet Thong, Gibali, S., Vuong, 2021)*

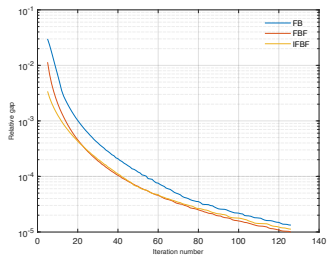
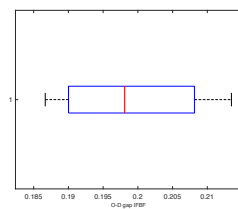
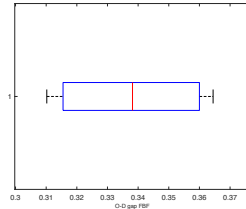
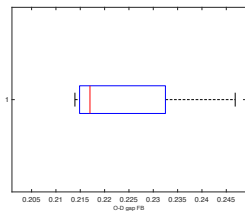
Let  $\{\varepsilon_n\}_n$  and  $\{\beta_n\}_n$  be such that

$$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \beta_n = 0, \sum_n \beta_n = \infty, \text{ and } \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{\varepsilon_n}{\beta_n} = 0.$$

Let  $\{h_n\}$  be generated by Algorithm 3. Then  $h_n \rightarrow h^* = \operatorname{argmin}_{z \in \Omega} \|z\|$ .

## Results on the Nguyen Network

## Box Plot for the Gap



Results on the Sioux-Falls Network

## Box Plot for the Gap

